

**GCE 07 FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA (GS 83)**

**Origin: Executive of the General Council (GC42EX)**

- 1. At its meeting on Oshawa, Ontario (July 21-27, 2018) make the following mutual declaration with the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, meeting in Des Moines, Iowa (July 20-24, 2019):**

**That the 43rd General Council:**

***Acknowledge and celebrate* before God that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada is an authentic, faithful part of the one, universal body of Christ.**

***Declare and celebrate* that a relationship of full communion now exists between The United Church of Canada and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, by which is meant that both churches will pursue with intention ways of expressing the unity of the Church. This includes commitment to mutually recognizing ordered ministers of each partner church, and ways of manifesting the common mission of witness and service.**

***Commit* itself to work, with God's help and together with its partner churches, to effect greater unity in the whole church of Jesus Christ, and**

- 2. The 43rd General Council together with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada:**
  - a. *Receive the final report of the planning group, including the possibilities presented for common life and witness together,***
  - b. *Encourage* study of the biblical, theological, and practical implications of the full communion agreement,**
  - c. *Direct* the General Secretary, General Council to work collaboratively with the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to establish a Partnership Committee to give guidance to this process, and**

***Agree* to commence the full communion agreement with the signing of the common agreement by the two Heads of Communion at a joint service of celebration that will include opportunities for people across the two churches to celebrate in meaningful ways.**

**Moved: D. Hayward**

**Seconded: H. Leffler**

**CARRIED.**